



**Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2016**

Board Members Present:

Senator Kevin Bacon
Angela Bergefurd (Director Tracy Plouck)
Representative Janine Boyd
Jon Fishpaw
Daniel Fitzpatrick (Director Cynthia C. Dungey)
Christina Klefeker
Representative Sarah LaTourette
Dr. Lolita McDavid
Ronald Rees
Diana Starkey
Julie Walburn (Director Rick Hodges)

Board Members Absent:

Senator Lou Gentile
Judy Leb
Dr. Kathi Makoroff

Staff Present:

Kristen Rost, Executive Director
David Monder, Program Manager
Nicole Sillaman, Program Manager
Stephanie Powell, Program Administrator

Guests:

Denise Pleska, Senior Staff Attorney for ODJFS
Eric Campfield, Senior Legislative Aide, Senator Bacon
Ciara Price, Legislative Aide, Representative LaTourette
Sheri Chaney Jones, President, Measurement Resources Company
Erin Gerbec, Senior Research Associate, Measurement Resources Company
Aileen O'Donnell, Liaison Officer, ODJFS

Vice Chair Dr. Lolita McDavid called the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) Board Meeting to order at 10:01am on February 18, 2016. A quorum of members was present.

Chairman Bacon welcomed new OCTF Board member Diana Starkey.

Partnership in Action: Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) Action Plan

David Monder provided background information on the Trust Fund's partnership with Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) followed by a brief explanation of the organization's mission, vision and history.

Board members then viewed a brief video provided by PCAA explaining their organization.

Following the video, Mr. Monder discussed PCAA's network of state chapters of which the OCTF is a member. He explained that following an initial chartering process, the OCTF achieved full charter status as the Ohio Chapter of PCAA in February 2012. As a Chapter of PCAA, the OCTF participates in networking calls, workgroup discussions and webinars. This networking enables the Trust Fund to share with other state chapters' key challenges and successes the OCTF experiences as well as obtain valuable feedback on ways to consider further developing OCTF operations and practices moving forward.

Mr. Monder advised that the OCTF pays chapter fees along with executive committee membership fees of approximately \$2,000 each year. In addition, the Trust Fund, through its April Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month collaborations with PCAA, has established stronger public-private partnerships.

Mr. Monder also outlined the rechartering process undertaken by the Trust Fund in 2014 that resulted in the OCTF receiving the highest outcome possible, Chartered Chapter Status, with Capacity Building work plan. He then briefly discussed the main parts of the plan as well as its key objectives that will guide the Trust Fund in its PCAA partnership moving forward.

Chairman Bacon asked how the Trust Fund primarily and regularly interacts with PCAA. Mr. Monder explained that Executive Director Kristen Rost serves on PCAA's membership committee and participates in multiple calls, webinars and discussions concerning PCAA policy and operations particularly as they relate to state chapters. He also noted that the PCAA 2016 conference will be taking place in Cincinnati. Director Rost noted some of the topics that PCAA is looking for individuals to present on during the conference and she encouraged Board members to let her know if they have any ideas for presenters.

Old Business

Minutes

Chairman Bacon asked for any additions or revisions to the November 19, 2015 board meeting minutes. Ronald Rees motioned that the November 19, 2015 board meeting minutes be approved. Dr. McDavid seconded the motion and without objection the minutes were approved.

New Business

OCTF Budget and Finance Committee Update

Jon Fishpaw then briefly discussed some highlights of the SFY 2016 operating budget and then asked Director Rost to review the newly formatted budget.

Director Rost reviewed all parts of the operating budget and noted the amount of interest that the Trust Fund is now retaining.

Chairman Bacon discussed the need to boost donations and invited Board members moving forward to suggest strategies for accomplishing this.

OCTF Strategic Planning Discussion

Sheri Chaney Jones, President of Measurement Resources Company, recapped the strategic planning process as well as briefly highlighted recent developments. Ms. Jones noted the strategic focus areas approved by the OCTF Board at its prior meeting and explained that the strategic planning committee met and assembled recommendations for specific action items for the focus areas.

Christina Klefeker and Ronald Rees, who serve on the OCTF strategic planning committee, reviewed the revised vision statement. Following this, they explained the committee's specific action items for each strategic priority area and discussed the committee's reasoning behind recommending them for Board consideration.

Ms. Klefeker and Mr. Rees then discussed those action items that the committee believed should be funding priorities for calendar year 2016.

Following the presentation, Dr. McDavid motioned that the OCTF Board approve the 2016-2021 strategic plan action items and funding priorities. Diana Starkey seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Statewide Application

Director Rost reminded board members that the OCTF received a statewide application from Bethany Christian Services of Columbus by the January 8, 2016 deadline, and she briefly reviewed the Trust Fund's mandatory statewide application criteria.

The Director explained that Bethany Christian Services is requesting funding to expand Safe Families for Children (SFFC), a program where parents voluntarily place their children in safe, loving homes where they are cared for by volunteers while the parents seek to restore stability in their lives, throughout Ohio. The primary components of the proposal include: building community interest and engagement to recruit local providers, such as child welfare agencies, homeless shelter providers, community organizations and local faith communities; hiring and training SFFC Outreach Coordinators in Central Ohio and Northeast Ohio; recruiting, training and approving host families; and families in need voluntarily placing their children in the homes of volunteer host families for an average of 30 days while the placing family parents receive support.

Director Rost noted that the amount requested by Bethany Christian Services for year 1 is \$99,084 and they propose to serve 17 adults, 30 children, and 10 professionals. The Director also advised that the Trust Fund confirmed that Bethany Christian Services is licensed and regulated by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS).

Several board members expressed concerns about the treatment children will receive in the host families' homes and the level and type of training these host families possess. As a result, the OCTF Board delayed official consideration of the proposal so as to provide an opportunity for the Trust

Fund to obtain more information on the recruiting and training of host families as well as the background checks they undergo and the protocols and curriculum/manual they follow.

OCTF Regionalization Update

Nicole Sillaman explained that the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) met and had no objections to the regional model rules, which were final filed and took effect January 1, 2016.

She also discussed the development and release of the Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) for the purpose of obtaining up to eight qualified Regional Prevention Coordinators. She noted that seven applications were received and one was recommended for grant award. Following this, the RFGA was re-released and ten applications were received. Ms. Sillaman also outlined the review schedule for the applications and the tentative award notification date.

Director Rost then updated Board members on county prevention specialists and the actions taken by the Trust Fund to assist county commissioners in appointing specialists. She advised that 40 counties have appointed specialists to their respective Regional Prevention Councils.

She then advised members that the OCTF has received applications from three individuals seeking to be appointed by the OCTF Board to a Regional Prevention Council. Director Rost then asked for feedback on what Board members feel should be the process for the Trust Fund Board responding to requests for appointment.

Chairman Bacon and other members expressed their desire that the Trust Fund postpone approving requests for appointments until Regional Prevention Councils are meeting and able to advise us on what expertise they feel is missing or needed on their Council. The Trust Fund can then share this information as well as potential OCTF Board appointments with county commissioners for their review and feedback.

Sunset Review Committee Update

Director Rost advised Board members that the Trust Fund will be evaluated by the Sunset Review Committee as part of its five year review of Ohio boards, commissions, committees and councils. She explained that the Trust Fund has submitted requested information and she will be testifying on behalf of the OCTF at the February 23, 2016 Sunset Review Committee meeting.

SFY 2017 Funding Discussion

Director Rost advised that the Trust Fund and Chairman Bacon have received twenty-five letters from nineteen counties requesting that the Trust Fund provide gap or bridge funding to current Family and Children First Councils and their vendors for at a minimum, the July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 period.

The Director reviewed the OCTF regional model timeline and the concerns regarding a gap in child abuse prevention. The gap described in these letters is the discontinuation of current OCTF funding to county child abuse and neglect prevention grantees starting July 1, 2016 and lasting until the submission/approval of regional prevention plans on or about December 31, 2016. This perception assumes that the regional prevention councils will submit and receive OCTF approval for prevention plans containing the same programming to be delivered by the same vendors as currently exists.

The Director reminded members that under the regional model, regional plans will be based on the data from comprehensive needs assessments along with the deliberations of regional prevention council members and consideration by the OCTF Board. While it is possible that current grantees and their current programming may be included as part of a region's prevention plan, it is unknown at this time.

She also noted that the OCTF Board chose to continue funding county child abuse and neglect prevention grantees during SFY 2016 in order to provide them with a year to prepare for the discontinuation of the current funding system.

Director Rost also advised that during the July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 time period, the Trust Fund will continue implementing the regional funding model as well as provide state level child abuse prevention funding in multiple areas.

In considering the requests for funding, the Director reviewed multiple options and the consequences associated with them. One option, approving the request for \$2,000,000 in continuation funding for all SFY 2016 county child abuse and neglect prevention grantees, would necessitate making significant reductions to OCTF SFY 2017 statewide priorities as well as the implementation of the Trust Fund regional model.

Another option, approving the renewal of some grant agreements with county child abuse and neglect prevention grantees, presents multiple issues including what criteria to utilize uniformly given the above as well as grantees' current/past performance (e.g. numbers served, returned OCTF funds, delays/gaps or variations in their program delivery).

Following Board member discussion of these and other options, Chairman Bacon motioned that the OCTF Board approve utilizing the OCTF statewide application as the vehicle for a competitive funding opportunity covering the July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 time period, and that the OCTF staff be given discretion to set application parameters. Julie Walburn seconded the motion. The board voted to approve the motion with Ronald Rees abstaining from the vote.

April Prevention Month Discussion

Director Rost provided an update on April 2016 prevention month activities surrounding the OCTF #PinwheelSelfie Campaign including creating and releasing a high school student photo contest, creating a social media toolkit, developing a Facebook profile filler, providing local partners with the opportunity to purchase pinwheels from the Trust Fund, developing and implementing statewide public service announcements, conducting outreach to businesses to encourage them to participate in the #PinwheelSelfie Campaign and/or raise funds for the OCTF, and obtaining earned media appearances in major markets to promote the campaign.

The Director reminded members that the OCTF will be allocating up to \$2,000 to each Public Children Service Agency (PCSA) for promoting the #PinwheelSelfie Campaign and local April activities. She also advised that Ohio Wears Blue Day is April 13, 2016, the Trust Fund will receive donations from ODJFS' dress down days and the OCTF will host a bake sale on April 6th.

Other Business

Director Rost reminded board members that financial disclosure statements are due by May 16, 2016 and she noted that the OCTF has provided travel information to members for inclusion in their

statements. She also advised that board members must take ethics training in person or online during calendar year 2016.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Bacon adjourned the February 18, 2016 OCTF Board meeting at 12:22pm.

Handouts:

OCTF Board Meeting Agenda – February 18, 2016

OCTF PowerPoint Presentation – February 18, 2016

Diana Starkey – Bio

Stephanie Powell – Bio

OCTF Board Draft Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2015

SFY 2016 OCTF Operating Budget

OCTF 2016-2021 Strategic Plan

Bethany Christian Services Statewide Application

Applications to Child Abuse and Child Neglect Regional Prevention Councils

OCTF County Prevention Specialists Directory

SFY 2017 Funding Request Letters

SFY 2015 Annual Report Data

SFY 2016 Semiannual Report Data

Executive Director's Report

OCTF Biennial Report Calendar

Ohio Child Fatality Review Fifteenth Annual Report